

Message Text

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51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 101225Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2898

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7680

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB

SUBJECT: ALLEGED COMMUNICATION BETWEEN AMERICAN EMBASSY
BEIRUT AND BELL HELICOPTER PILOTS IN IRAN

REF: TEHRAN 7466(NOT SENT BEIRUT)

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HELMS

1. I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LIGHT YOU COULD SHED ON ALLEGATIONS MADE HERE BY BELL HELICOPTER COMPANY OFFICIALS THAT ON JULY 30 A COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM WAS SENT BY ONE BOB LAST INITIAL R., U.S. EMBASSY BEIRUT, TO STANLEY B. KLINE, A MEMBER OF A PILOTS' ASSOCIATION RECENTLY FORMED AMONG BELL INSTRUCTOR PILOTS IN ISFAHAN. ACCORDING TO BELL OFFICIALS, THE SENDER OF THE TELEGRAM INFORMED THE ADDRESSEE THAT QUOTE COUSIN HENRY'S OFFICE ADVISES PLAN OF ACTION REASONABLE AND LEGAL. FIRE AWAY. UNQUOTE. TELEGRAM ALSO ALLEGEDLY ADVISED ADDRESSEE THAT WIRE SERVICES WERE INTERESTED IN COVERING STORY AND THAT BOB R. WOULD BE TRAVELING TO ISFAHAN SHORTLY.

2. FOR YOUR BACKGROUND, BELL INSTRUCTOR PILOTS' ASSOCIATION IN ISFAHAN IS SEEKING RECOGNITION FROM MANAGEMENT AS EXCLUSIVE BARGAINING AGENT AND SINCE AUGUST 2 HAS ENGAGED IN STRIKE ACTIONS DESIGNED TO FORCE RECOGNITION AND SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATION OF WAGE AND OTHER
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GRIEVANCES. COMPANY OFFICIALS HERE NATURALLY SENSITIVE

TO ANY SUGGESTION OF U.S. OFFICIAL INTERVENTION IN THIS
SITUATION AND REQUESTED OUR COMMENT. COMPANY OFFICIALS
LEAN TO VIEW THAT THE TELEGRAM WAS A PLANT DESIGNED TO
FALL UNDER THEIR EYES, AND THIS IS REINFORCED BY SUBSEQUENT
NON-APPEARANCE IN ISFAHAN OF ANY PERSON IDENTIFIABLE AS BOB
R. ALTHOUGH ANYONE COULD CONCEIVABLY USE THE AMERICAN EMBASSY
AS AN ADDRESS IN SENDING A TELEGRAM AND I CANNOT CONCEIVE OF
ANY MEMBER OF YOUR STAFF ACTING IN THIS FASHION. THOUGHT I
SHOULD PASS THIS ON FOR YOUR REACTION.
HELMS

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NNN

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